

## TENNESSEE'S GOVERNOR- ELECT IN HOUSTON

Like Interestingly of Various Matters.  
He Was a Waif Educated in  
Orphans' Home.

[Galveston News.]

Houston, Texas, Dec. 8.—Capt. Ben Hooper, of Newport, Tenn., and next governor of Tennessee, choice of the republicans and the independent democrats, arrived in Houston Saturday morning from Nashville. Captain Hooper is in Houston on a business mission, being one of the members of a land company which a few years ago purchased several hundred acres of land near the Rice Institute. The property represents an investment of \$250,000, and, with one exception, the owners are all Tennesseans. Almost boyish in appearance, being only 40, Captain Hooper would not be taken for a governor-elect. Dignified, modest, educated, he looks like a college professor. He is the man who defeated United States Senator Bob Taylor for the governorship of Tennessee. Nominated by the republicans and endorsed by the independent democrats of the state, he is the first republican to win the executive nomination in Tennessee in thirty years. Speaking of his election, Captain Hooper stated that he promised the people of Tennessee before election day since that he intended to give the state a business administration, looking more to the development of the state's resources than to building up political machine. He stated that he could not announce his appointments until after he had been inaugurated, and that his appointees would be selected from among the republicans and independent democrats with the view of allaying all factional strife.

### 600-Mile Highway.

One of the first things Captain Hooper proposes to do after his inauguration will be the building of the Memphis-Bristol highway, a distance of 600 miles. He stated that a great deal of the road was already in existence and that all that was necessary to be done will be to connect the links of the existing pikes and highways, making a solid paved pike from Memphis to Bristol. He stated this highway when completed would bring the eastern and western parts of the state in close connection and add thousands of dollars to the value of the land

and farms along the route. This highway is to be built by the co-operation of the farmers and residents living on the road, and will be built in two days. When asked how it could be done in such short time, Captain Hooper stated that the farmers had already agreed to give two days' time to the work, which can be done in that time. Since the election, Governor-elect Hooper said, the building of this road was the single issue in Tennessee.

### Interesting History.

No more interesting figure than Captain Hooper has arisen in American politics in many years. He first awoke to consciousness within the walls of a Knoxville Baptist orphanage, and back of that knows nothing. Captain Hooper has no knowledge concerning his parents. All that he knows is that he was picked up as a waif and placed in the orphanage and remained there until a friend became interested in him to the extent of adopting him and sending him to a law school. After graduating he went to Newport and engaged in the practice of law. He left Newport and came to Texas, where he made \$150,000 in less than six months' time, and turned his face toward Tennessee. Ten years ago he married a Miss Jones, the daughter of one of the most prominent and wealthy men of the state. He owns a magnificent home at Newport, where he had his books and family, consisting of four children and his wife. Since his nomination Governor-elect Hooper has lived in Nashville and will be inaugurated governor January 17.

Governor Hooper served two terms in the Tennessee legislature and was assistant United States attorney for the eastern district for four years, resigning less than two years ago, when he again took up his law practice at Newport. When he resigned he did not intend to go into politics again, and was not expecting the nomination when it was offered to him. Winning the nomination, Captain Hooper defeated Alf Taylor, republican and brother of Senator Bob Taylor, whom he defeated in the general election, and H. Clay Evans. The speech of acceptance made by Hooper shook the state of Tennessee, and although comparatively unknown, he was elected over Bob Taylor by a majority of 13,000. He made sixty-four speeches during the campaign.

With clear blue eyes, military bearing and a fine, resonant voice, the young governor-elect of Tennessee is a commanding figure and attractive

personality. Serious and convincing, one gets the impression of his high ideals and his rugged sincerity.

During the Spanish-American war Captain Hooper was captain of a Tennessee company.

In speaking of Houston, Captain Hooper stated that during the past few years he had invested in real estate in Oklahoma City, Birmingham and Houston, these cities offering the best advantages to capital, he claimed. He stated that his investments in the three cities had proven profitable.

Captain Hooper will remain in Houston three days, and prominent local Tennesseans are planning a banquet in his honor, and many distinguished men of the state will be invited.

### FOSTER'S WEATHER BULLETIN.

Washington, Dec. 10.—(Copyrighted, 1910, by W. T. Foster)—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent 13th to 17th, warm wave 12th to 16th, cool wave 15th to 19th. This will be of about medium force and temperature, but less than usual rainfall. Not much snow anywhere. The warm waves, moving eastward, will cross meridian 90 about December 9, 15 and 20 and the cold waves 12th, 17th and 23d. Crop weather will be favorable December 10 to 21.

Next disturbance will reach Pacific coast about 17th, cross Pacific slope by close of 18th, great central valleys 19th to 21st, Eastern sections 22d. Warm wave will cross Pacific slope about 17th, great central valleys 19th, Eastern sections 21st. Cool wave will cross Pacific slope about 20th, great central valleys 22d, Eastern sections 24th.

This disturbance will be an old-fashioned storm breeder. That is what the old hunters, sailors and North American Indians would call it. The North American Indians were great hunters and the weather was of great importance to them, therefore they, like the birds, learned by experience many correct weather indications. This disturbance will start a period of bad winter storms that will continue into January, and will include some of the most disagreeable storms and blizzards of the winter.

The warm wave described above will cause one of the highest temperature periods of the month and immediately following it will spread over the continent a great cold wave which will be a blizzard in northern sections. Snows will fall in many Northern sec-

tions, particularly in the Ohio valleys and about the great lakes.

This cold wave will be more severe west of the Alleghenies than in Eastern sections and will probably not be of much force on the Pacific slope. Probabilities are favorable to a genuine old-fashioned Texas norther not far from December 24, and the greater force of the cold wave will affect the country from Winnipeg to the Gulf of Mexico between meridian 90 and the Rockies.

I advise preparations for very bad winter weather from about December 19 to 29, when a general freeze-up will chill the continent. Northern sections will get good sleighing snows and the boys can prepare to hitch old "Dobbin" to the sleigh. Where the high winds do not uncover the ground the snows will be good for winter wheat.

I still advise those interested in grain to wait. A great and unusual railroad stock pool, not well understood, has controlled prices for two months and has made a plaything of grain prices. I do not believe they will long continue in control, and therefore advise to wait. The headquarters of the stock pool is in London and some of the parties that were in the pool last summer—the one that blew up—are in this one.

Do not be alarmed about election results turning business upside down. Congress will not be able to unite on anything and business will get a rest. The big corporations can not afford a panic at this time. The people are in bad humor for a panic and such a catastrophe at this time might end in wiping the corporations out of existence. I do not believe that these great forces will monkey with that buzz-saw at this time. There was a time when the great forces could safely speculate on panics, but that scheme has turned into a two-edged sword and is liable to cut the hand that gives it motion. Let us not expect a panic; there is no room for it on the continent. Death should be the remedy for those who organize panics.

Saturn is morning star and Jupiter evening star. Mars will soon be one of the morning stars. The weather this month is controlled principally by Mars and Venus. Late in the month Mercury and Saturn will come into the weather problem. About December 29 sun spots will appear on the east and west sides of the sun and furious storms will organize on many parts of the earth. On January 10 the earth will pass between Neptune and the sun, but it requires a telescope to see Neptune.

### 100 CHRISTIANS MASSACRED. Fanatical Bedouin Tribesmen Murder Turkish Garrison in Syria.

Constantinople, Dec. 10.—A telegram from Jerusalem states that Bedouins have massacred the Turkish garrison at Kerak, a town in the Turkish vilayet of Syria, and killed more than one hundred Christian inhabitants of the place in revenge for the execution of a Bedouin citizen.

The Bedouins, the dispatch adds, now hold the fortress in the vicinity of which there has been desultory fighting between the tribesmen and the government troops for the past year and a half.

Kerak, formerly the capital of Moab, has a population of 8000, of whom 6000 are Moslems.

The town is the last on the road from Damascus to Mecca where Christians may reside. It stands on the mountains of Moab and may be seen from Jerusalem, fifty miles west. There are no American missionaries there, the missionary station being that of the British church missionary society for Africa and the East. This is a branch of the organization at Es-sault and is composed of one missionary, his wife and one native worker.

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GUY BITTLE

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